



ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

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Welcome back to students, parents, and staff, and a special welcome to our students and families who are new to Rockridge Secondary. I hope that you are all having an enjoyable and restful summer vacation. We are looking forward to the arrival of students on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 4th. An orientation for new students will be held on Friday, August 31st from 10am—12pm. Grade 8's who have already attended an orientation last year do not need to attend, but are welcome to do so, if they wish.

There will be extended homeroom periods for the first five days of school. These will be invaluable times where teachers will share time management and organizational tools and discuss resources available and practical strategies to help students have a successful year. Please ensure your child arrives promptly to school each day.

It is my pleasure to welcome a few staff members new to Rockridge this year. Mr. A. Cheung joins our Math department, Ms. De Silva will be teaching Spanish and French, Ms. Weitzel joins us as our new Textiles teacher and Ms. Willms joins the Rockridge Learning Support Team. We are also pleased to welcome Ms. MacDonald back to our English department and Mr. Branco to the Science department. Ms. Ferrajohn and Ms. Alldred will be teaming up as advisors to senior students on their post-secondary options.

Over the summer, Facilities Staff was busy redesigning some of the spaces in our common areas. Work areas in the hallway across from the Learning Commons and nooks on the second floor above the cafeteria have been created for students to work independently or collaborate in groups. We are very excited about these new learning spaces!

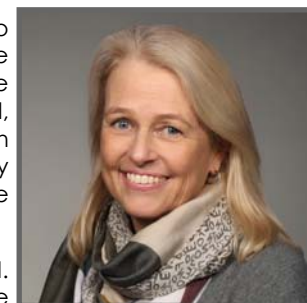
Throughout the school year, the Rockridge website, www.westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary will have a great deal of information regarding upcoming school events and news. There will also be information regarding Rockridge's programs, athletics, and the RSPAC. I will be posting pieces on a school blog to share my thoughts and information with you about current events in our school. Additionally, the school will continue to email a weekly electronic bulletin each Monday, which will focus on what is happening in the upcoming week. Please ensure that the school has your correct email address. We often use Twitter to share photos and information on events and activities as they happen. You may wish to follow us! Our Twitter handle is @RockridgeSS.

Rockridge is a BYOD school, and we are requesting that all students bring a digital device to school. Additional information regarding digital access for students can be found on page 13 of this newsletter. A reminder to students about our cell phone guidelines: cell phone are not to be on the students' bodies during class time. They may be used during classes at teacher discretion for specific learning opportunities only.

I am looking forward to meeting parents and guardians at our September welcome events (see the September calendar on page 17).

Mr. Sandor, Mr. Thomson, the Rockridge staff and I look forward to working with you and your son or daughter to have a successful and rewarding school year.

Judy Duncan, Principal



STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers needed for New Student Orientation (August 31)



Start your Year of Service with a bang. We are looking for volunteers to help introduce new students to Rockridge on Friday, August 31st. Volunteers will take our newest students on a tour, help them get oriented, answer questions and generally welcome them to their school. All volunteers will

receive hours for service plus we will provide drinks and snacks at the conclusion of the session. The orientation is from 10am to noon but **volunteers should arrive at 9:30am** to check in and get ready for the session.

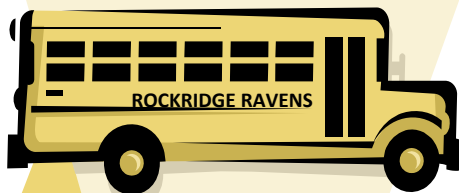
This is a great way to start earning service hours plus potentially meet some new friends for life while also helping students to start their year in the most positive way possible.

Send your name directly to Mr. Thomson at gthomson@wvschools.ca and your name will be added to the list, or, drop by the school and sign the list in the office by Wednesday, August 29th. Put "Student Orientation" in the subject line.

Thanks again! We really appreciate how Rockridge students always help to make our school an amazing place to learn.

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

SCHOOL BUS



TRANSPORTATION

Students in West Vancouver School District are eligible to receive transportation services if:

You live **WITHIN** the "catchment area" of Rockridge, **AND**

You live **OUTSIDE** the "walk limits" of Rockridge

Walk Limits: 4.8 km from school

September 4th (Opening Day)—MORNING DROP OFF ONLY

September 5th—FULL BUS SERVICE BEGINS

Please visit the school district website for more information and to request student transportation services:

www.westvancouver.schools.ca/resources/parents/transportation-parking

OPENING DAY—SEPTEMBER 4TH

The opening day on Tuesday, September 4th is a **shortened day** for all students. Please note arrival and dismissal times for each grade in the boxes below. **Any outstanding textbooks should be returned to the office, and library books to the library on opening day.**

GRADE 8: 8:30—11:00 am

Grade 8s will be greeted by student mentors and guided to their homerooms, which will be posted in the main foyer. Students will receive important forms and information including their timetables and locker combos. New this year, all grade 8s will be placed in advisory groups of approximately 15 students (within their homerooms). Each group will be matched with two mentors; a grade 9 and a grade 10 student. During the homeroom/advisory, the students will engage in getting to know you activities and then be led by their mentors to meet their teachers, administration, counsellors, youth worker and office staff. Their student mentors will guide them through various activities around the school, all geared to acquaint them with Rockridge and each other. Grade 8 students will be dismissed at 11:00 am.

GRADE 9: 9:15—10:20 am

GRADE 10: 10:20—11:25 am

GRADE 11: 11:25 am—12:30 pm

Grade 9—11 students will assemble in Players Hall at the commencement time noted above, before heading to their homerooms (to be posted in the main foyer) to receive important forms and information, including their timetables.

GRADE 12: 12:30—2:30 pm

Grade 12 students will meet in on the sports pad at the front of the school for the Grade 12 BBQ hosted by our administrators, before heading to Players Hall at 1:00 pm, and then on to homerooms at 2 pm. Grade 12s will be dismissed at 2:30 pm.



Welcome Back!

BLOCK ROTATION

Rockridge follows a six-day block rotation schedule, which is clearly defined in the student agenda book. For example:

Wednesday, September 5	Day 1—Blocks 1234
Thursday, September 6	Day 2—Blocks 1234
Friday, September 7	Day 1—Blocks 2314
Monday, September 10	Day 2—Blocks 2314
Tuesday, September 11	Day 1—Blocks 3124
Wednesday, September 12	Day 2—Blocks 3124

On Thursday, September 13, the block order would repeat from the beginning, ie:

Thursday, September 13	Day 1—Blocks 1234
Friday, September 14	Day 2—Blocks 1234

TIMETABLE & BELL SCHEDULE

TIME	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1	DAY 2
8:25	WARNING BELL					
8:30 – 9:50	1	1	2	2	3	3
	BREAK					
9:58	WARNING BELL					
10:00	Daily Announcements					
10:01 –11:20	2	2	3	3	1	1
	BREAK					
11:28	WARNING BELL					
11:30–12:50	3	3	1	1	2	2
	LUNCH					
1:33	WARNING BELL					
1:36– 2:55	4	4	4	4	4	4

COLLABORATION TIME

Collaboration time will be held on the first and second Thursday of each month to allow for an equal number of Day 1's and 2's for collaboration time. It will continue to be held for 80 minutes on the afternoons noted below. The first collaboration block will take place on **Thursday, September 13th**. Please see the bell schedule for collaboration days on the right. This bell schedule is also included in the student's agenda book.

During this time, Rockridge staff members are given the opportunity to collaborate with each other. The staff at Rockridge has been committed to the highest calibre of professional growth and development to implement the IB MYP Programme as well as the new curriculum, and meet the challenges of the changing needs of our learners and the rapid technological advances. Time for collaboration with colleagues can have a positive influence on student engagement and achievement while continuing to prepare our learners for a changing world.

During collaboration time, Grade 8 and 9 students will be learning the Career Education and Health Education Curriculum through various guest speakers approximately once per month or every second collaboration block. During the other collaboration times throughout the month when students are not required to attend assemblies, students are expected to work on their Career Education assignments. They may work on these at school if they wish to do so. Grade 10 students will be meeting with their Personal Project Advisors during some of the collaboration blocks. When they are not meeting with their Project Advisors, they are expected to be working on their Personal Projects. They may work on these at school if they wish to do so. Grade 11 and 12 students are given the collaboration time to work on their requirements of daily physical activity and Graduation Transitions. As part of Graduation Transitions, students need to complete 30 hours of volunteer service or paid work experience. Students are also expected to complete additional assignments to meet the learning outcomes of this course. More information regarding the expectations of students during collaboration time will be given to students during Grade Assemblies in the first week of school. In the past year, students have valued collaboration time, as it is also an excellent opportunity for them to work and collaborate with each other on any projects or other group work they may have.

Time	Block
8:25	Warning Bell
8:30—9:30	Block 1
	Break
9:38	Warning Bell
9:40—10:40	Block 2
	Break
10:48	Warning Bell
10:50—11:51	Block 3
	Lunch
12:33	Warning Bell
12:37—1:37	Block 4
1:37—2:55	Collaboration Time

The collaboration schedule will take place on the following Thursdays:

September 13, 20
 October 4, 11
 November 1, 8
 December 6, 13
 January 17, 24
 February 7, 14
 March 7, 14
 April 11, 18
 May 2, 9
 June 6, 13



IMPORTANT FORMS AND INFORMATION

Paper Forms

On opening day, your child will be given an envelope containing forms which we ask that you complete and return to the school office as soon as possible during the first week of school. These important district forms include:

- ▶ Student Release form
- ▶ Student Emergency Identification Form
- ▶ Personal Alternate form (*Do not return to school—keep at home*)
- ▶ Student Information Verification form—please check for accuracy, make any necessary changes and sign the form. **If there has been a change of address, as per district requirements, please attach a copy of the new purchase/lease agreement, along with a copy of a BC Hydro, TELUS, Fortis BC or Shaw bill addressed to you at the new address.**
- ▶ Locker Contract (for grade 8's only)



Online Policies and Procedures Forms

In September, please go to westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary/parents/forms/ to complete this online form. This form must be completed electronically for each child attending West Vancouver Schools each year. The form includes the following:

- Student Code of Conduct and Discipline
- District Network and Internet Appropriate Use
- Privately Owned Electronic Devices Appropriate Use
- Use of Website Applications Outside British Columbia—Parental Consent
- Community Activities Release-Parental Consent
- Consent of Release Permission
- B.C. School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program



Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation—Request for Consent

West Vancouver School District | Rockridge Secondary School

Important!

Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) law came into force on July 1, 2014. As a result, the West Vancouver School Board would like to ensure that we have your consent to receive newsletters, school and Board updates, announcements, event invitations, and other electronic messages which may contain advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, field trips, program offerings, community events, the sale of yearbooks, student pictures, uniforms, books, prom or dance tickets, or similar events and offers. If you wish to receive the above communications from us, please follow the link below:

westvancouver.schools.ca/resources/parents/create-an-account

For further information on this law, you may visit:

<http://fightspam.gc.ca/eic/site/030.nsf/eng/home#>

If you have any questions or if you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please contact Tricia Buckley, Manager of Communications and Community Engagement for the West Vancouver School District.

Email: tbuckley@wvschools.ca

ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY PAC (RSPAC)



The Rockridge website—www.westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting dates and links to Executive members are on the *Parent* portion of the website.

Get involved with Parent Advisory Council (PAC) - PAC meetings are scheduled regularly through the school year. Dates are available on the *Parent* portion of the school website. Opportunity to express interest in PAC Committees and events is provided with a volunteer form enclosed with this Newsletter, and at the Welcome Coffee on September 5th. Visit the PAC portion of the school website throughout the year for current information on meetings and events.

Welcome Coffee

You are cordially invited to the Rockridge Secondary Parent Advisory Council (RSPAC) Welcome Coffee on **Wednesday, September 5th at 8:45 am in Player's Hall.**

Please join us for a morning coffee and snack. Take the opportunity to catch up after the summer, hear from our Principal and others from the school, and get some information from the PAC. We look forward to seeing you!

2018-2019 RSPAC Executive:

Chair—Carol Fraser

Vice-Chair—Darius Matheson

Treasurer—Barb Mitchell

Secretary—Helen Hall

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Rep—Darius Matheson

Communications—Tanya Petraszko

Special Events—Linda Heintzman

Event Coordinator—Diana Steele

Scholarship Committee—Karen McCluskey

Members at large—Kim Campbell and Nicola South



Pancake Breakfast



The RSPAC invites parents/families and guardians of grade 8 students, as well as any new students in grades 9-12 to join their "New to Rockridge Complimentary Pancake Breakfast" on **Friday, September 7th at 7:30 am in the school cafeteria.** Please go to our website at www.westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary under *School Announcements* to complete the pancake order form.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Agenda



As a service provided at Rockridge and financed through student activity fees, students will be provided with a handy "student agenda." These booklets contain useful information about Rockridge in addition to being a day timer/planner. Past history has shown that this item can be of great assistance to the students as they plan their homework and upcoming activities. However, it is not always used in a way which maximizes effectiveness and parents are encouraged to go through the agenda with their student and assist us in encouraging all students to use this item regularly to increase their own efficiency and effectiveness at school. The agenda is full of information specific to Rockridge and can be referred to for information on Clubs & Activities, Service Awards, Scholarships, the Rockridge Code of Conduct, Honour Roll, and more.

School Supplies

Although individual teachers have various requirements for their courses which will be communicated to students on the first day of school, the following supplies tend to be used by most students in grades 8 through 12:

Pens, Pencils, Erasers, Highlighters, Fine liners, Ruler, Scissors, Glue Stick, Coloured felt pens, Lined paper and Graph paper, "Post-it" notes, two binders with dividers for Day 1 and Day 2 subjects and a USB drive (memory stick).

Grade 8 and 9 students should have a calculator, grades 10 students should have a scientific calculator if they are enrolled in Math, and grades 11-12 students should have a graphing calculator.



School Locks



The school provides each student with a locker and combination lock. Students are not to switch lockers or use their own lock. A master list of lockers and lock combinations is kept by our accounting officer in the main office. It is important that you don't share your lock combination with anyone. There will be a \$10.00 replacement charge for a missing lock. P. E. lockers are available for use by students in physical education classes. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a lock to the change room and secure all of their possessions. Parents and students are reminded that neither the school nor the West Vancouver Board has insurance to cover loss or damage of students' personal property .

PE Strip



Rockridge clothing, including PE strip can be purchased from the school office

T-Shirts \$21 Shorts \$28 Hoodies \$45 Sweatpants \$42

Rockridge Umbrella \$30



Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please note the following:

- Visitor parking spaces at the front of the school are a 'no parking' zone in the morning and after school. The driveway in front of the school doors is a NO STOPPING zone.
- All numbered parking spaces are designated for individual staff members. Please do not park in these spaces at any time during school hours.

Student Parking



Should a student wish to bring a car to school, they **must complete a registration form in the office** which will enable them to park in the upper lot by the Caulfeild Drive exit. There is a \$20 fee for the year which goes into a scholarship fund. The student will receive a decal which must be displayed on the windshield at all times. The student parking lot will be strictly enforced and students need to be aware that this is the only area for student parking.

Student Photos

A notice will be handed out to students in the first week of school regarding Photo Day. **Photo Day is Tuesday, September 11th**

Photographs are used for Student ID cards, the Student Directory and Yearbook.



Teachers and Staff Communication

Every teacher and staff member at Rockridge is on email and may be reached by firstinitiallastname@wvschools.ca (ie. jsmith@wvschools.ca) Staff member names, emails and position or department may also be found on our website: <http://westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary/about/staff/>

Grade 12 Communication

The Counselling Department has a distribution list for grade 12 students. It is used to communicate important information regarding scholarship opportunities, university presentations and the like to all grade 12's throughout the year. Parents/Guardians wishing to OPT OUT must contact the Grade 12 Counsellor, Ms. McLellan at mmclellan@wvschools.ca.



Parent/Guardian Communication E-Bulletins

Electronic bulletins will be emailed from the school each Monday providing parents and guardians with important information for the coming week and month ahead. Our e-bulletins are also published on our school website for your information. In addition to our weekly bulletin, there may be additional emails sent home regarding special events and/or activities.



Late & Away Procedures

The best way for students to learn is to be in class. At Rockride we emphasize the importance of student attendance. Students should be in class by the 8:30 bell. Individual teachers will administer consequences for tardiness. Students who are frequently late will receive guidance and consequences from the administration. Should the tardiness continue, parents will be contacted by the administration.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES—Attendance is recorded by teachers on the computer network every period. Initially, subject teachers will deal with students about unexcused absences and apply consequences. If a student is developing a pattern of unexcused absences or lates, counsellors and administrators will then become involved and consequences may include making up missed time or suspension.

EXCUSED ABSENCES—If a student is ill or will be late for school, parents are requested to inform the school by phoning the school at **(604-981-1300)** before 8:25 am and leaving a message with the reason for the absence or lateness. It is the students' responsibility to contact teachers or friends to find out what work was missed.

Students who must leave the school before afternoon dismissal must sign-out through the main office. A parent must call the office to advise us of the student's need to leave early or send a note to that effect. If a parent cannot be contacted, the student will not be given permission to leave unless it is under exceptional circumstances.

SYNREVOICE SYSTEM—The Synrevoice System will primarily be used to let parents know if their child is absent from class. When the teacher marks the student absent, he/she will be unexcused in the computer and the Synrevoice System will call or email parents. In order for the system to be helpful, it is important that parents call the school early in the day to inform us when a student will be absent so that he/she will be excused (see paragraph above). If you prefer to have an email sent to you when your son/daughter is absent please, contact the school to let us know.

FAMILY HOLIDAYS/MISSED WORK—We do not give permission for students to go on holiday during school time. If parents opt to take their sons/daughters out, it is their prerogative. Any work missed is solely the student's responsibility. Teachers are not expected to provide extra classes, make-up tests, or specific work to be completed. Parents must be aware that absences, whether excused or not, may have a negative impact on achievement.

attendance
MATTERS

HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES NEW TO ROCKRIDGE

From your Parent Advisory Council (RSPAC)

Students:



General school supplies – most classes require a binder, paper, and writing implements. Many students set up two large binders: Day 1 classes and Day 2 classes. Some prefer individual binders for each subject. Multiple textbooks will travel to and from school, so space and efficiency of a backpack (or other) matter. Required supplies for each class are communicated by the teacher in class at the beginning of the school year



School gym strip – attire featuring the 'Rockridge' logo can be purchased and is not mandatory. Samples are on display in the school office, and can be ordered there.



Lockers – use them! They're handy and they protect your valuables. Never leave anything of value in an unlocked or unguarded area. The school provides a lock for regular lockers, and you will need your own lock for gym lockers. Talk to office staff if you have difficulty opening any locker. (There is a 'Lost & Found' area in the school office. Immediately report anything missing.)



Getting to class on-time - For the first few days, do your best to find your classroom. There is enough time built into the schedule to visit your locker in between classes, once you are comfortable getting around the school

Daily block rotations are posted each day outside the school office and are available each day on the school web-site and Rockridge App.



Collaboration Block – is time during the school day in which teachers work with each other and regular classes are not in session. Specific activities and expectations are planned for each grade. Please ask an administrator, teacher or counsellor if you are unclear of the activity scheduled for any of the collaborative blocks. The schedule of collaboration block activities is also included in the weekly e-bulletin. Participation in any scheduled activity is mandatory.



Learning Commons - a great place to work! Please... no food or drink.



School TV monitors - pay attention to them – they will help keep you up to date with what's happening around the school. You can also look at the Rockridge website under "Daily Student Announcements".

HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES NEW TO ROCKRIDGE

From your Parent Advisory Council (RSPAC)



Lunch Break – lunch begins at 12:50 pm, so you may want to bring a snack to eat in the morning. If you are in Grade 8, the school requires your parent's permission each time you visit **Caulfeild Village** during the lunch break.



The cafeteria - bring \$. The food is good and well priced. It may be difficult to find a place to sit in the cafeteria, but you may eat your lunch elsewhere in the school. The school has recycling and composting bins for disposables; please use them!



Microwave - there are microwaves available for student use at the cafeteria entrance. Hot water is also available.



Buses - If you are catching a blue bus right after school, make sure that you are aware of the schedule. (There's one bus that leaves very soon after dismissal). The departure of the yellow buses is prompt.



School counsellors are incredibly helpful and receptive – speak to yours if you need to talk through anything.



Getting organized - determine early and experiment to find out the best way to keep yourself organized. It could be your student agenda (which lists important dates as well), a wall calendar, or an electronic organizer (including your phone). It will absolutely simplify the rest of your year.



Student courtesy phone – is located outside the Counselling Centre. Please dial 9 and then the 10 digit local number you wish to call.



Intimidation or bullying - if you are experiencing this from anyone, speak to any school administrator, teacher or counsellor. There is no tolerance for bullying at Rockridge!



Get involved in the school. The school can be as good as you make it! If you have an idea, make your voice heard. Start or join a club, participate in school activities, or get involved with Student Council. Participate in the Club Fair held in the first few weeks of school to learn more about the clubs.

DIGITAL ACCESS

Grade 8 Students

We are looking forward to welcoming our Grade 8 students to Rockridge on September 4th.

As has been discussed at the Grade 8 Information Evening and Elementary School visits in January, we are requesting that incoming Grade 8 students bring in a digital device for the 2018-2019 school year. This will enable Grade 8 students to work in a 1:1 environment, when appropriate, that will further deepen their learning, facilitate inquiry and further engage students. In such an environment, students will

- be better prepared to move forward in a world that requires the use of technology.
- learn how to use devices in a variety of ways-some common, some unique.
- be given guidance on how to use these tools in an appropriate manner including how to:
 - develop a positive digital footprint,
 - report inappropriate behaviour,
 - protect their privacy, and
 - create, share and publish work of which they are proud

We are recommending that students bring devices such as chromebooks, netbooks, Macbooks, laptops, and Microsoft Surfaces to school, as they meet the following minimum requirements:

- include a tactile keyboard, internet connectivity and memory
- capable of word processing, creating spreadsheets and multimedia presentations

It is suggested that students do not bring tablets to school, as they will not be able to use these as efficiently.

If students are unable to bring a device to school due to financial hardship, please contact Mr. Sandor, Vice Principal at: csandor@wvschools.ca.



Grade 9—12 Students

We are requesting that Grade 9—12 students continue to bring their digital devices to school, as they did last year. Students are encouraged to bring netbooks, laptops, tablet laptops, or ipads to school to use for writing assignments, researching on the internet, accessing virtual classrooms and notes as well as to access announcements and information relevant to clubs, sports and other activities. Students may use their computers to work in the cafeteria, library or at one of our brand new work stations that were built over the summer and can be found throughout the west wing on the 2nd floor. (Thanks Mr. MacDougall!) Students are encouraged to use these spaces during study periods, before school, at lunch or after school. Students should speak with individual teachers about appropriate use in specific classes. Students already bring iPods, cell phones and other expensive technology, so we would expect students extend that same level of care and watchfulness to any wireless devices they bring to school.

BC FERRIES & ATHLETIC GROUPS—CODE OF CONDUCT

To promote safety and good order, students and sports groups must obey directions given by ship and terminal personnel regarding loading and unloading, safety and emergency procedures and orderly conduct.

The following conduct will not be tolerated:

- Fighting, quarrelling, loud disturbances or use of obscene or profane language.
- Tampering with or damaging safety or lifesaving equipment or other equipment or fittings.
- Littering or throwing objects overboard or at others.
- Use or possession of drugs or alcohol.
- Possession of weapons.
- Careless use of open flame.

Remedial action may include any of the following:

- Verbal warning.
- Verbal warning with notification to parent/guardian and school.
- Written warning with copies to parent/guardian and school.

Further action may involve:

- Requiring that a parent/guardian or other responsible adult accompany the student onboard the ferry
- Withdrawal of travel privileges.
- Involving the police and laying charges where applicable.



GRADE 8—CAULFEILD VILLAGE

Although there are benefits to having Caulfeild Village in close proximity, it can create some issues for the school in terms of supervision and student behaviour. The mall is an unsupervised area. Although grade 8 students are often visiting many areas in the community without supervision outside of school hours, the dynamic of doing so within the school day is very different. The mall may cause a disconnection between the student and the school community.

For grade 8 students, a big part of transitioning to high school is learning the school culture and building new relationships. Although this does happen in classes, the most important time for this is during breaks and lunch. When students leave at breaks to go to the mall, this connection becomes broken and students start to isolate themselves into small cliques. Without adult supervision at the mall, we find our younger students struggle to maintain their behaviour. Their focus becomes the world outside of the school and they miss out on important experiences that help them to become engaged members of our school community. For these reasons, grade 8 students may not leave school grounds to visit the mall except under unique circumstances and only with specific permission of the school administration.

There are of course special instances where a student might 'need' to go to the mall. In these unique circumstances, we require that a grade 8 student bring a signed note from a parent/guardian indicating the day on which they wish to visit the mall. Students may also meet with the Vice Principal and sign out at the office before leaving school grounds.

Our experience has indicated that by the Spring, our grade 8's are fully ready to use the mall in a responsible and appropriate manner. They have also become well-connected with their peers at school. At that time, we discuss with the students the mall and expectations for behaviour. Then, we give them full permission to visit Caulfeild Village to purchase food but not to 'hang-out'. We hope you will support us in this important decision to restrict grade 8 access to Caulfeild Village.

ROCKRIDGE ATHLETICS

Rockridge has a reputation for offering a wide variety of seasonal sports, all outlined in the student agenda.

Students should make sure they listen to announcements and *check the monitor in front of the office, especially during the first few weeks of school, for try-outs and meeting times for sports teams and clubs.*

We are looking forward to a great fall season! Here's a list of the sports teams offered in the Fall:

- Volleyball—girls
- Field Hockey
- Cross Country Running
- Grade 8 Rugby
- Sr. Boys' Soccer
- Swimming



ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

For your convenience, our school district has made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. Enrolment applications for student accident insurance will be distributed to students in their homeroom classes. Parents are encouraged to consider this as the school district does not carry accident insurance.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For complete plan details, please visit www.kidsplus.ca. Forms will be sent home with students at the beginning of the school year.



SEPTEMBER—AT A GLANCE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
3 LABOUR DAY— Statutory Holiday	4 School Opens Gr 8: 8:30am–11:00am Gr 9: 9:15am-10:20am Gr 10: 10:20am-11:25am Gr 11: 11:25am-12:30pm Gr 12: 12:30 am-2:30 pm	5 Day 1: 1234 Term 1 Begins RSPAC Welcome Coffee—8:45 am Players Hall	6 Day 2: 1234	7 Day 1: 2314 RSPAC Welcome Breakfast (New and Grade 8 fami- lies) - 7:30 am
10 Day 2: 2314 WVS PREMIERE ACADEMY PROGRAMS COMMENCE	11 Day 1: 3124 Student Photos Grade 10 Parent Info Session—6:30 pm Grade 8 Parent Info Session—7:00 pm	12 Day 2: 3124	13 Day 1: 1234X Collaboration Block Day Grade 8's to Bowen Island 8:30am—3:30pm	14 Day 2: 1234
17 Day 1: 2314	18 Day 2: 2314	19 Day 1: 3124 UBC INFO NIGHT 7:00-8:00pm	20 Day 2: 3124 Meet the Teacher 5:30-7:00pm (see below)	21 ProD Day– School Not in Session
24 Day 2: 1234	25 Day 1: 2314	26 Day 2: 2314 RSPAC Family Barbecue (details TBD)	27 Day 1: 3124 Terry Fox Run Tofino Surf Trip Gr. 10-12 Sept 27-30	28 Day 2: 3124 Orange Shirt Day

Please check the Rockridge School website for any updates to this school calendar.

MEET THE TEACHER—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
 We hope you can join us on September 21st to meet the teachers and familiarize yourself with the curriculum and work expectations for students' classes.



August 20, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardian of the Graduates of 2019:

We are looking forward to seeing all of our Grade 12 students on September 4th to start the most exciting and probably the most challenging year of high school. Grade 12 is certainly a special year and we will do everything we can to support you throughout the year in preparing your student for whatever path he/she chooses when they leave the doors of our District's schools.

We know that the graduating class of 2019 has the potential to be outstanding in terms of positive leadership and there will be high expectations placed on them. Although we realize that there is a lot of excitement surrounding the graduating year, we ask that students consider that the choices they make will impact their year and that of others.

Of particular concern are those events, which are not school sponsored. These include car rallies, out-of-country trips, trips to ski resorts, grad pranks, and the Grad Sleepover. The Grad Sleepover is a "tradition" occurring the night before school starts on September 4th. Although these activities take place outside of school hours, they have an effect on the school. We are very concerned for the safety of our young people when they participate in unsupervised activities that may involve the use of drugs and alcohol. As well, damage to property and forested areas reflects badly on the school and hurts our relationships with those whose responsibility it is to manage parks, trails and other public and private spaces. We need the support of all parents in ensuring that these activities will not continue.

If your son or daughter expresses interest in participating in any of these events, please work with them to find an alternate celebration. We, like you, want your children to be as safe as possible in all situations, to get off to the best start, and to have a successful and rewarding year in every respect.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to phone us at the numbers below. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Ms. Judy Duncan
Principal,
Rockridge Secondary
604-981-1300

Mr. Steve Rauh
Principal,
West Vancouver Secondary
604-981-1100

Mr. Mike Finch
Principal,
Sentinel Secondary
604-981-1130

2018-2019 CALENDAR

ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

5350 Headland Drive, West Vancouver, BC V7W 3H2

TELEPHONE (604) 981-1300 FAX (604) 981-1301

Principal: Ms. Judy Duncan Vice Principals: Mr. Garth Thomson and Mr. Chris Sandor

August	Thu 30	District Professional Development Day – school not in session
September	Mon 3	Labour Day Holiday – school not in session
	Tue 4	School Opens
	Fri 21	Professional Development Day – school not in session
October	Mon 8	Thanksgiving Day Holiday – school not in session
	Fri 19	Provincial Professional Development Day – school not in session
	Mon 22	Non-Instructional Day (Curriculum In-Service) – school not in session
November	Sun 11	Remembrance Day
	Mon 12	Remembrance Day Holiday
	Mon 19	Professional Development Day – school not in session
December	Mon 24 – Fri Jan. 4	Winter Break – school not in session
January	Mon 7	School Re-opens for 2018
	Fri 25	Professional Development Day – school not in session
February	Fri 15	District Wide Reading Break – school not in session
	Mon 18	BC Family Day Holiday – school not in session
March	Fri 15	Last school day prior to Spring Break
	Mon 18 – Fri 29	Spring Break (District Wide) – school not in session
April	Fri 19	Easter Friday Holiday
	Mon 22	Easter Monday Holiday
	Tue 23	School Re-opens
May	Fri 17	Professional Development Day – school not in session
	Mon 20	Victoria Day Holiday – school not in session
June	Thu 27	Last day of classes
	Fri 28	School Year Ends / Administrative Day